

Docket no. JCT-002

Serial No. 10/084,523

Applicant's traversal of the restriction requirement is based upon the Examiner's reasoning that the inventions of Groups I and II "are not connected in design, operation, and/or effect...one would not have to practice the various methods at the same time to practice just one method alone". (Office Action, page 2).

The Examiner's attention is directed to the fact that both claims 1 and 11 have essentially identical steps, with the exception that claim 11 is directed to a specific species of "divisible medical material" (claim 1), i.e. umbilical cord blood. As such, Applicant respectfully submits that the relationship between Groups I and II as identified by the Examiner are that of Genus/Species, which rather than being subject to restriction, should be subject to election of species only, with additional species being searchable upon the finding of patentability of the elected species.

Accordingly, Applicant requests the Examiner to re-characterize the requirement to be that of an election of species and to rejoin the claims of Group I with those of Group II upon an indication of allowability of the elected claims.

Respectfully submitted,



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